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For decision

United Nations Children's Fund
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Item 7 (b) of the provisional agenda*

Extensions of ongoing country programmes

Note by the secretariat

Summary

In accordance with Executive Board decision 2009/11, this note presents the reasons for the proposed two-year extensions of the country programmes for Afghanistan and the Comoros and the proposed one-year extension of the country programme for South Africa, following a previous 15-month extension. The Executive Board is requested to approve these programme extensions.

Draft decision

The Executive Board

1. *Approves* the two-year extensions of the country programmes for Afghanistan and the Comoros and the one-year extension of the country programme for South Africa, following a previous 15-month extension, as presented in the table that follows.

* E/ICEF/2019/1.
Note: The present document was processed in its entirety by UNICEF.

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Table
Extensions of ongoing country programmes for which the approval of the Executive Board is requested

UNICEF-supported country programme	*Original programme period, including previous extensions*	*Year/period approved for extension*	*Reasons for the extension*
Afghanistan	2015–2019	2021 (two-year extension)	– To enable UNICEF to align its support with the Afghanistan National Peace and Development Framework (2017–2021) and the national priority programmes. – To enable UNICEF to align with the extension of the present United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which has been approved by the regional United Nations Development Group (UNDG) team, until the end of 2021. – Except for marginal alignment of results, strategies, enablers and resources to the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, the priorities, assumptions and strategies that underpin the current country programme remain unchanged.
Comoros	2015–2019	2021 (two-year extension)	– To enable UNICEF to align its support with the national planning cycle, which has been extended by two years to align with the Sustainable Development Goals and the new government priorities. In line with these changes, the Government has requested the realignment of the UNDAF and the corresponding country programmes until the end of 2021. – To enable UNICEF to align with the extension of the present UNDAF that has been approved by the regional UNDG team, until the end of 2021. – Except for marginal alignment of results, strategies, enablers and resources to the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, the priorities, assumptions and strategies that underpin the current country programme remain unchanged.

South Africa	2013–31 March 2019 (previously extended for 15 months, to 31 March 2019)	31 March 2020 (one-year extension)	– To enable UNICEF to align its support with the Government's next Medium Term Strategic Framework, 2020–2025. – The Government of South Africa and the regional UNSDG have approved the request from the United Nations resident coordinator to extend the South Africa-United Nations Strategic Cooperation Framework, 2013–March 2019, until 31 March 2020. – Except for marginal alignment of results, strategies, enablers and resources to the UNICEF Strategic Plan, 2018–2021, the priorities, assumptions and strategies that underpin the current country programme remain unchanged.